

Remarks

The Examiner has asked Applicants to elect a single invention from the following:

Group I - Claims 1-11 in part, drawn to compounds of Formula I wherein there are no heterocyclic components of the structures.

Group II - Claims 1-9 in part, drawn to compounds of Formula I wherein there are heterocyclic components of the structures.

Group III - Claims 13-18, 20 and 21as drawn to the method of using the compounds of Group I.

Group IV - Claims 13-18, 20 and 21as drawn to the method of using the compounds of Group II

Group V - Claims 22 and 23 as drawn to a process of preparing the compounds of Group I.

Group VI - Claims 22 and 23 as drawn to a process of preparing the compounds of Group I.

Applicants hereby elect with traverse Group I, claims 1-11 in part, drawn to compounds of Formula I wherein there are no heterocyclic components of the structures. Applicants respectfully suggest that, for example, a compound of formula I wherein R1 and R2 are alkyl groups and a compound wherein R1 and R2 form an alkylene chain can be considered very similar to each other.

The Examiner states that there is no special technical feature linking the claims because compounds with the same core structure are known. Harnisch, US 4,370,486 is cited. Applicants respectfully suggest that the compounds of Harnisch are different from those of the instant invention in that Harnisch is directed to biphenyl amides, not biphenyl amines. Harnisch does prepare as intermediates amino salts which are sulfonated, e.g., examples 33-36, but there are no 4-4'-bis-amino biphenyls in Harnisch, in particular, there are no 4-4'-bis-amino biphenyls which bear no other substituents on the biphenyl aromatic rings.

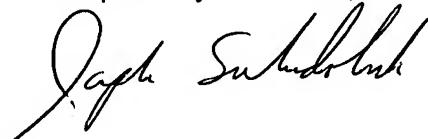
Applicants therefore believe that the 4-4'-bis-amino biphenyls of the instant invention are not the same as the compounds of Harnisch, will ultimately be found novel and represent a "special technical feature" linking the claims of the present application to form a single general inventive concept.

Applicants therefore kindly request that the Examiner rejoin the claims directed to methods of use and the methods of preparation either at the present time or upon finding the compounds of Group I novel and non-obvious.

For similar reasons, Applicants also kindly request that the Examiner rejoin the claims of Group II either at the present time or upon finding the compounds of Group I novel and non-obvious.

Consideration of the elected claims on their merits is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,



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